

least substantially similar to that of a *Bacillus novo* species PB₉₂ protease or a biologically active fragment thereof.

10. (amended) The method according to Claim [1]22, wherein at least one copy of said [second] DNA sequence is integrated into the genome of said [expression] host.

11. (amended) The method according to Claim 10, wherein said [expression] host further [includes] contains at least one copy of a plasmid comprising said [second] DNA sequence.

REMARKS

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the above amendments. Support for the changes is as follows.

Page 2, line 1, in the first part of the sentence (bottom of page 1) the application refers to extra-cellular neutral and alkaline proteases, thus it is clear that "endogenous" should have been "intra-cellular".

Page 3, lines 20-23, "extra-cellulose" is purely a transcription error and should read "extracellular"; further, the insertion of the word "additional" does not add new matter, it is simply a description of the disclosure of the cited reference.

Page 4, line 30, the change is to more correctly describe the transformed *Bacillus* in that, clearly, following transformation it is no longer a protease negative *Bacillus* in that it contains the inserted protease gene. The term "expression host" is found on page 4, line 18.

Page 4, line 33, support for the change may be found on page 4, lines 18-20.

Page 5, line 18, is merely the correction of an obvious typographical error.

Page 7, line 27, the addition of the sentence concerning the fact that the other plasmid sequences are deleted merely qualifies the information provided in the previous sentence which refers to the modified sequence being left in the chromosome from which it may be inferred that the other plasmid sequences are deleted.

Page 8, line 18, refers back to the indigenous protease gene mentioned in line 11 and 12 and is clearly a typographical error.

Page 8, line 22, the change is supported by the description of the Campbell's-type integration mechanism on pages 8-9.

Page 8, line 38, support for the change is provided in the beginning part of the sentence starting on line 34, which indicates that growth at temperatures to which the origin of replication is sensitive is a means for selection not of identification.

Page 9, lines 25-26 is simply to remove text which should have been deleted due to changes in the wording of the paragraph during preparation of the application.

Page 19, line 32 and page 20, line 10 are to correct obvious typographical errors.

New Claim 22 finds support for example on page 6, lines 18-24 and page 10, lines 3-10 which describe different methods for obtaining mutant proteases. The remaining changes to the claims are to correct dependency of the claims and to use language which finds antecedent in preceding claims.

No new matter is introduced by the above amendment. The Examiner is therefore respectfully requested to enter the amendments.

If in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (415) 494-7622.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: September 23, 1991

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